CLAIMS

WHAT IS CLAIMED:

1. A device, comprising:

a first connector;

a bus bridge coupled to the first connector;

a storage controller coupled to the bus bridge; and

a bootable storage device connected to the storage controller, wherein the bootable storage device is operable to boot a domain in a multiple domain computer system.

2. The device of claim 1, further comprising:

an I/O controller coupled to the storage controller; and

a network interface.

3. The device of claim 2, further comprising;

an I/O port coupled to the storage controller.

4. The device of claim 2, wherein the network interface comprises an Ethernet transceiver coupled to the I/O controller.

5. The device of claim 4, further comprising:

an Ethernet connector coupled to the Ethernet transceiver.

6. The device of claim 2, wherein the I/O controller is coupled to the bus bridge.

7. The device of claim 1, further comprising:

a storage port coupled to the storage controller.

8. The device of claim 1, configured as a primary card including the first connector and the bus bridge, and the primary card further comprising:

a second connector coupled between the bus bridge and the storage controller; and

configured as a secondary card including the storage controller and the bootable storage device, and the secondary card further comprising:

a third connector coupled to the second connector, wherein the bus bridge and the storage controller are coupled through the third connector.

9. The device of claim 1, further comprising:

a memory coupled to the first connector, wherein the first memory is configured to store configuration data for the device.

10. A computer system, comprising:

a center plane;

one or more processor boards coupled to the center plane;

one or more I/O boards coupled to the center plane; and

a device connected locally to a first I/O board of the one or more I/O boards, the device comprising:

a storage controller; and

a storage device coupled to the storage controller.

11. The computer system of claim 10, the device further comprising:

an I/O controller coupled to the device controller; and

an Ethernet transceiver coupled to the I/O controller.

12. The computer system of claim 10, the device further comprising;

a storage port coupled to the storage controller.

13. The computer system of claim 10, the device configured as a primary card and a secondary card, the primary card comprising:

a first connector configured to couple the primary card to the first I/O board;

a bus bridge coupled to the first I/O board through the first connector; and

a second connector coupled between the bus bridge and the storage controller; and

the secondary card including the storage controller and the storage device, the secondary card further comprising:

a third connector connected to the second connector, wherein the bus bridge and the storage controller are coupled through the third connector.

14. The computer system of claim 10, wherein the storage device is a bootable device.

15. The computer system of claim 14, wherein the bootable device is operable to boot a domain.

16. The computer system of claim 10, the device further comprising:

a memory configured to store configuration data for the device.

17. The computer system of claim 10, wherein the one or more processor boards includes a plurality of processor boards coupled to the center plane.

18. The computer system of claim 10, wherein the one or more I/O boards includes a plurality of I/O boards coupled to the center plane.

19. The computer system of claim 18, further comprising:

one or more additional devices each connected locally to an I/O board of the plurality of I/O boards, each of the one or more additional devices comprising:

a storage controller; and

a storage device coupled to the storage controller.

20. A computer system, comprising:

a plurality of processors comprised locally within the computer system;

a plurality of storage controllers coupled to the plurality of processors, wherein the plurality of storage controllers are comprised locally within the computer system; and

one or more bootable storage devices, each coupled to a respective one of the plurality of storage controllers, wherein the one or more bootable storage devices are comprised locally within the computer system.

21. A method of booting a domain in a computer system configurable with a plurality of domains, the method comprising:

booting the domain from a boot location on a local storage drive;

loading operating system code from the boot location into one or more processors in the domain; and

operating the domain from the one or more processors.

22. The method of claim 21, further comprising:

booting a system controller; and

wherein booting the domain from the boot location on the local storage drive comprises the system controller booting the domain from the boot location on the local storage drive.

23. A method of booting a domain in a computer system configurable with a plurality of domains, the method comprising:

locating one or more available boot locations on one or more local storage drives;

identifying a boot location on a local storage drive of the one or more local storage drives; and

booting the domain from the boot location on the local storage drive.

24. The method of claim 23, further comprising:

locating one or more available boot locations on one or more remote drives.

25. The method of claim 23, further comprising:

loading operating system code from the boot location into one or more processors in the domain.

26. A device, comprising:

means for connecting the device to a computer system;

means for bridging to a bus in the computer system coupled through the means for connecting to the computer system;

means for controlling a means for storing data, wherein the means for controlling is coupled to the means for bridging.

27. The device of claim 26, wherein the means for storing data comprises a bootable means for storing data.

28. The device of claim 27, wherein the bootable means for storing data is operable to boot a domain in the computer system.

29. A computer readable medium encoded with instructions that, when executed by a computer system, performs a method for booting a domain in a computer system configurable with a plurality of domains in the computer system, the method comprising:

booting the domain from a boot location on a local storage drive;

loading operating system code from the boot location into one or more processors in the domain; and

operating the domain from the one or more processors.

30. The computer readable medium of claim 29, the method further comprising:

booting a system controller; and

wherein booting the domain from the boot location on the local storage drive comprises the system controller booting the domain from the boot location on the local storage drive.

31. A computer readable medium encoded with instructions that, when executed by a computer system, performs a method for booting a domain in a computer system configurable with a plurality of domains in the computer system, the method comprising:

locating one or more available boot locations on one or more local storage drives;

identifying a boot location on a local storage drive of the one or more local storage drives; and

booting the domain from the boot location on the local storage drive.

32. The computer readable medium of claim 31, the method further comprising:

locating one or more available boot locations on one or more remote drives.

33. The computer readable medium of claim 31, the method further comprising:

loading operating system code from the boot location into one or more processors in the domain.